National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi, 10 cases of cholera were reported from Narela Zone as positive, during May-June, 1989. No contact cases were detected in the area and no deaths occurred.

(b) Delhi Administration has investigated the matter and found some deficiencies in chlorination. Seven persons including one Assistant Engineer have been suspended on account of defaults in ensuring regular and adequate chlorination.

Excluding of telephone services from COPRA

59. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecommunications Department has issued a circular recently to the State Telecom. circles stating that telephone services are not goverened by Consumers Protection Act (COPRA); and

(b) if so,what are the reasons for excluding telephone services from COPRA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The circular was issued after consulting the Law Ministry. The matter is, however, pending before the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission.

Prevention against Gastroenteritis in the Capital

60. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any preventive meaures have since been taken by Goernment against breaking out of gastroenteritis cases during the current rainy season in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Yes. The following preventive measures have been taken to prevent the spread of gastro-enteritis in the capital:

(i) Supply of safe drinking water in all areas both through tankers to the JJ clusters and individual water connections in resettlement colonies and regularised un-authorised colonies. Also installation of deep hand pumps in JJ clusters;

(ii) Shallow hand pumps have been made de-operationalised in the areas where these pumps were located in close proximity of sullage and swamps. Those pumps whi ch could not be removed, have been painted red indicating as unsafe;

(iii) Cleaning of septic tanks of community latrines and establishments of sulabh sochalayas in selected areas;

(iv) Removal of garbage & desilting of drains;

(v) Distribution of Hallogen tablets to ensure chlorinated drinking water;

(vi) Extensive health education campaign and promotion of oral rehydration therapy through distribution of ORS packets through All Government/Semi Government an private hospitals and dispensaries;